

Message Text

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ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 IO-14 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03

SS-20 USIA-15 DPW-01 OMB-01 AID-20 DRC-01 /151 W

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R 050957Z JUL 74

FM AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9783

INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

AMEMBASSY SAIGON

AMEMBASSY PHNOM PENH

CINCPAC

AMEMBASSY PARIS

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE VIENTIANE 5231

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, PINT, LA

SUBJECT: JCCIA PLENUM DISCUSSES GIBSON CASE AND OTHER MATTERS

1. JOINT CENTRAL COMMISSION TO IMPLEMENT AGREEMENT (JCCIA)
HELD REGULAR WEEKLY MEETING JULY 5 AND, ACCORDING TO LPF AND
VIENTIANE SIDE SPOKESMEN, DISCUSSED FOLLOWING QUESTIONS:

A. NEUTRALIZATION OF TWIN CAPITALS: LPF PROPOSED THAT
ALL BUT 1200 VIENTIANE SIDE MILITARY PERSONNEL BE WITHDRAWN FROM
VIENTIANE. LPF ALSO DEMANDED THAT FULL RESPONSIBILITY FOR
SECURITY AT WATTAY AIRPORT BE HANDED OVER TO JOINT POLICE FORCE,
AND THAT ALL VIENTIANE SIDE UNITS NOT PERMITTED BY LAOS PROTOCOL
WITHIN 15-KILOMETER BUFFER ZONE AROUND VIENTIANE BE ORDERED
NOT TO ENTER ZONE.

B. CEASEFIRE: LPF SPOKESMAN PHAO BOUNNAPHOL ASSERTED
THAT MEETING HAD AGREED ON EMPLACEMENT OF BOUNDARY
STAKE AT VILLAGE CLOSER TO LUANG PRABANG THAN LOCATIONS
PRESCRIBED IN PROTOCOL. HOWEVER, VIENTIANE SIDE SPOKESMAN
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OBJECTED DURING PRESS CONFERENCE AND SAID STAKES COULD

ONLY BE EMPLACED AT LOCATIONS NOT MENTIONED IN PROTOCOL
IF SERIOUS CONFRONTATION EXISTED AT SUCH LOCATIONS.

C. NEW PREFECT FOR VIENTIANE: VIENTIANE SIDE HAS
RE-OPENED QUESTION OF NEW PREFECT (MAYOR) FOR VIENTIANE,
CLAIMING THAT JCCIA APPROVAL LAST WEEK OF BOUNKHONG
PRADICHITH, WHO IS LPF CANDIDATE, WAS DEROGATION OF
AUTHORITY OF MINISTER OF INTERIOR. VIENTIANE SIDE CLAIMED
THAT NOMINATION OF NEW PREFECT SHOULD BE MADE BY INTERIOR
MINISTRY TO PGNU, AND JCCIA SHOULD ONLY DISCUSS MATTER
IF THERE IS SERIOUS DISPUTE BETWEEN THE TWO SIDES.

D. GIBSON CASE: VIENTIANE SIDE SPOKESMAN SAID THAT
JCCIA HAD CONCLUDED THAT THE POLICE REPORT ON THE INCIDENT
INVOLVING DETAINED US PRIVATE CITIZEN ROBERT GIBSON
SHOULD BE SUBMITTED TO THE APPROPRIATE COURT (TRIBUNAL
DE PREMIER INSTANCE) SO THAT DISPOSITION OF THE CASE CAN
BE DETERMINED BY THE JUDGE. (COMMENT: IN EFFECT, THIS
IMPLIES THAT JCCIA HAS RELINQUISHED ANY JURISDICTION OVER
CASE.).

E. FOREIGN TROOP WITHDRAWAL AND POW/MIA: VIENTIANE
SIDE DELEGATION CHAIRMAN SOUKAN VILAYSARN PROPOSED
DISCUSSION OF THESE TOPICS AFTER FOREGOING ITEMS HAD
BEEN ADDRESSED. LPF SIDE AGREED TO ACCEPT THEM FOR
DISCUSSION, BUT AFTER ONE MINUTE OF TALK, ANNOUNCED THAT
NO TIME WAS LEFT AND ASKED TO ADJOURN MEETING. LPF SIDE
CONCLUDED BY SUGGESTING THAT THESE TOPICS BE SENT TO
MILITARY SUB-COMMITTEE WHICH COULD SUBMIT REPORT TO
JCCIA PLENUM NEXT WEEK. VIENTIANE SIDE AGREED, ACCORDING
TO SPOKESMEN.
WHITEHOUSE

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: ARMISTICE, POW, MIA, MILITARY PERSONNEL, ARRESTS, COMMITTEE MEETINGS, PEACE PLANS, TROOP REDUCTIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 05 JUL 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: shawdg
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974VIENTI05231
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740178-0651
From: VIENTIANE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740771/aaaacisy.tel
Line Count: 93
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EA
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: shawdg
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 22 APR 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <22 APR 2002 by shawdg>; APPROVED <21 FEB 2003 by shawdg>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: JCCIA PLENUM DISCUSSES GIBSON CASE AND OTHER MATTERS
TAGS: PFOR, PINT, LA, JCCIA, LPF, (GIBSON, ROBERT)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005